

VZCZCXRO8567

PP RUEHAG RUEHAST RUEHDF RUEHDH RUEHHM RUEHLN RUEHLZ RUEHMA RUEHPB  
RUEHPOD RUEHTM RUEHTRO  
DE RUEHRL #0655 1531603  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 021603Z JUN 09  
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4245  
INFO RUEHZN/ENVIRONMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLECTIVE  
RUCNFRG/FRG COLLECTIVE  
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 1268  
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 0686  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0450  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 1997  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUEHRL/USDAO BERLIN GE  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS  
RUCUSTR/USSTRATCOM OFFUTT AFB NE

UNCLAS BERLIN 000655

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS  
STATE FOR EUR/CE PETER SCHROEDER  
STATE FOR OES/SAT DAVID TURNER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ETTC](#) [PGOV](#) [PINR](#) [MCAP](#) [PREL](#) [TSPA](#) [GM](#)  
SUBJECT: GERMAN GENERAL SAYS NO THANKS TO GALILEO; ESA NOW  
WORKING DEFENSE

**¶1.** (SBU) SUMMARY: At the 3rd Annual Space Systems and Security Conference in Potsdam, Germany, a senior German officer firmly stated that his country does not anticipate being a customer of the European Galileo Guidance Navigation Satellite System (GNSS). Separately, a European Space Agency (ESA) official emphasized the need to strengthen ESA's role in European defense projects. The conference was held from May 26-27 and featured presentations on space situational awareness (SSA), domestic security, Galileo, and advanced remote sensing satellites. END SUMMARY

GERMAN GENERAL SAYS NO TO GALILEO

---

**¶2.** (SBU) German Luftwaffe Lieutenant General Friedrich W. Ploeger of the German Joint Air Power Competence Center, frankly told conference attendees that the German military "does not have a military need for Galileo." Ploeger said the alliance the German military has with the USG for use of GPS is robust/working and remarked the German military's limited budget would restrict its involvement with the Galileo program.

ESA ANTICIPATES GREATER ROLE IN EU SECURITY

---

**¶3.** (SBU) Dr. Thomas Beer of the ESA outlined ESA's plans to enter into European defense projects, a departure from its original charter limiting activities to the peaceful use of outer space. Beer said the peaceful use of outer space, clause in ESA's charter was "re-examined" and it was determined that nothing in this clause prevented ESA from participating in European defense activities, as long as these activities do not involve "aggressive activities." Beer stated that ESA now has the European legal and policy authorization to work on EU defense projects.

Koenig